

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1715 - SB 1836

February 6, 2022

SUMMARY OF BILL: Increases, from seventh to ninth, the earliest grade level for which a student is eligible to enroll in a course access program. Removes the authority of the State Board of Education (SBE) to approve and adopt additional enrollment requirements for the course access program. Specifies that SBE may exclude a course from the course access catalog if the course is offered by a school that was issued a “D” or “F” letter grade on the most recent state report card.

FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. §49-18-102, students in grades seven through twelve are eligible to enroll in course access program courses.
- The proposed legislation redefines eligibility to include only students in grades nine through twelve.
- According to DOE, districts have not yet applied to offer any grade seven or eight course access program courses. Therefore, removing eligibility for students in grades seven and eight will not significantly affect participation in the program or the amount of funding that will shift from one local education agency to another.
- Tennessee Code Annotated 49-18-106(f) authorizes SBE to exclude a course from the course access catalog for specified reasons; in addition, SBE is authorized to establish additional reasons and requirements for the exclusion of courses from the catalog. Therefore, authorizing SBE to exclude a course if the course is offered by a school that was issued a “D” or “F” letter grade on the most recent state report card will not result in a significant impact on the course access program.
- DOE, SBE, and LEAs will be able to implement changes to the course access program within existing resources and during the normal course of business.
- Any impact to state or local expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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